

Knoxville Tenn Dec 5/63

Dear Brother and Sister: as you
Please send this home as ^{soon} as you
you have been in a great suspense
in regard to us of Burnside's Army
The papers probably only told you we
were surrounded &c &c We have been
surrounded but the rebels took to
their heels last night and are now
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with constant watching on picket ~~and~~

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to write

PAGE 1

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We traveled 10 miles and got near
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PAGE 2

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We have not worked suffered and
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PAGE 3

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Except a few dashes on our picket
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Longstreet massed 3 brigades of his
best troops and assailed our fort
but was driven back with terrible
slaughter leaving over 500 dead on
the space of an acre. W. F. Tompkins

PAGE 4

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W.J. Templeton

Read it for I cant get time to write